

CIA DIRECTOR
Central Intelligence Agency

Washington, D.C. 20505

10 July 1978

The Honorable Samuel Brown
Director, ACTION
806 Connecticut Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20525

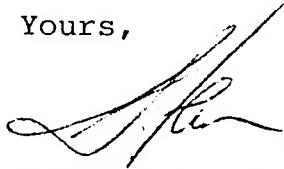
Dear Sam:

Responsive to your recent request, we have declassified my letter of 24 January to you, and you should feel free to share it with your people as you may wish. I have enclosed a copy of the letter which has been marked to indicate that it has been properly declassified. Please similarly mark the original with the enclosed declassification labels and destroy all unmarked copies.

I would also like to comment on the proposal you have recently made to establish a rule whereby former employees of intelligence agencies are permanently barred from employment or volunteer work in the Peace Corps; even extending to relatives of employees of intelligence services. I cannot express in terms too strong my objection to this proposed discriminatory policy. I am enclosing two paragraphs from a letter of 4 May 1978 from my General Counsel to your General Counsel. I support these fully and commend them to your consideration. Beyond these, I firmly reject the idea that people have to be tarred for life because they worked for us, particularly when some of them may be simply summer interns. The country must have an effective intelligence service. Many branches of our government are required to support those intelligence services in one way or another. We do not call on the Peace Corps for such support. But the Peace Corps can accept the very small problem of image that could be created if a former employee of an intelligence service elects to join your organization. This is both a small contribution to a national cause of obtaining a good intelligence organization for our country and it is also a very low probability circumstance. Accordingly, I feel the risks to the Peace Corps are minimal. The damage to the intelligence community of being singled out as a pariah of this sort could be substantial. I would most appreciate your allowing me to appeal this issue to the President if you elect to persist in it.

Beyond this, let me also take this opportunity to say that I am grateful for the cooperative way in which your General Counsel has been discussing these and other problems with our attorneys. They have resolved a number of issues and all these discussions have been conducted in a most amicable way.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "STANSFIELD TURNER".

STANSFIELD TURNER

Enclosures